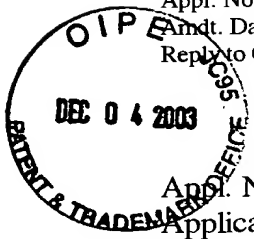


AF/ 2700

Corres. and Mail  
**BOX AF**

RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR 1.116  
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE  
EXAMINING GROUP 2635

Appl. No.: 09/893,185  
Amtd. Dated: December 1, 2003  
Reply to Office Action of: October 1, 2003



**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Appl. No. : 09/893,185  
Applicants : Kazuya Suzuki et al.  
Filed : June 27, 2001  
Title : APPLIANCE MAINTENANCE APPARATUS AND  
APPLIANCE REMOTE MAINTENANCE SYSTEM

TC/A.U. : 2857  
Examiner : Felix E. Suarez

Docket No. : 33733

Mail Stop AF  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RECEIVED  
DEC 10 2003  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800

**AMENDMENT "B" AFTER FINAL FILED UNDER RULE 1.116**

Sir:

This amendment is filed in response to the Office Action dated October 1, 2003 (Paper No. 7). The three month period for responding to the Office Action expires on January 1, 2004.

Please amend the above-identified application in the following manner.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 11 of this paper.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop AF, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date indicated below.

Suzanne B. Gagnon

Name of Attorney for Applicant(s)

Signature of Attorney

December 2, 2003

Date